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House of Representatives

The House met at 12:30 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

I hereby appoint the Honorable DONNA F. EDWARDS to act as Speaker pro tempore on

> NANCY PELOSI. Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Chair would now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 31 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Well-ordered time is cosmic set.

The sun seems to rise from the Earth. Yet in truth, it is the Earth that moves. Each morning gives rise to this mistaken perception.

Lord God, during the rest of this day, let us not be deceived by half-truths, which reshape simple desires into felt

Do not allow our past experiences so crowd the mind there is no openness for surprises.

Rather, Lord, give us the strength to meet the truth with all its demands to change and accept.

Once again, by Your power, the truth will set us free to act as Your children both now and forever.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LOEBSACK) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. LOEBSACK led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

HEALTH CARE REFORM COMES CLEAN ON TAXES

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, there is an interesting new development on the ObamaCare front.

Remember the penalties on families that do not purchase health insurance,

the ones that will top \$2,000 for many families? Remember what President Obama said about this individual mandate penalty? He said it was "absolutely not a tax increase."

Well, I guess times have changed.

Now the Obama administration's Justice Department is defending this penalty in court as part of the govern-"power to lay and collect taxes.'

At least the truth about this \$4 billion a year tax is now out. Too bad Washington Democrats didn't come clean until months after ObamaCare became law.

Madam Speaker, the American people deserve better.

STIMULUS MISINFORMATION

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, this weekend, the administration bizarrely claimed that there is "overwhelming consensus" that we are not losing jobs and are, instead, creating them. If this is the case, I encourage the administration to release the data to back up this "overwhelming consensus" to constituents who want to know "Where are the jobs?"

The Web site created to monitor the stimulus money is even a failure. At one time Recovery.gov was nothing more than a Web site filled with misinformation, fake job numbers and fake congressional districts.

When unemployment numbers hover around 10 percent and when stimulus dollars are not reported accurately, it is no wonder that, in the opinion of most Americans, stimulus spending is not working. This sentiment is highlighted by a recent CBS poll, showing that 74 percent of Americans believe that the stimulus had no impact or has made things worse.

☐ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., ☐ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

